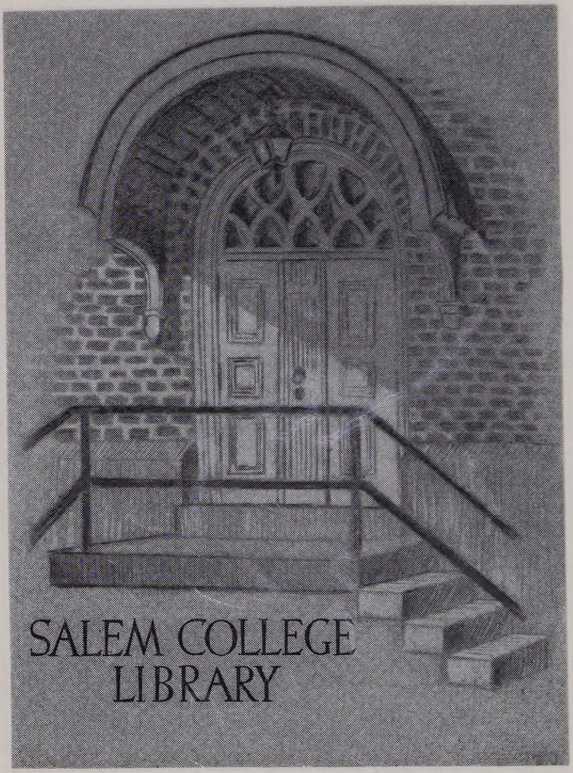
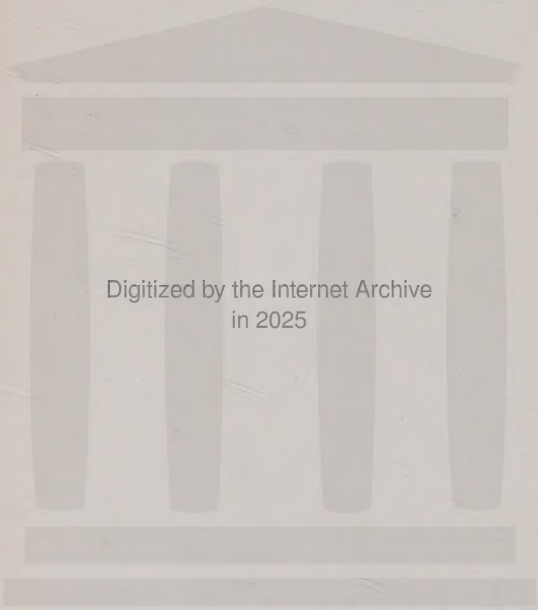

SALEM COLLEGE
LIBRARY

Gramley Library
Salem College
Winston-Salem, NC 27108


Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025

https://archive.org/details/manwithoutcountr0000edwa_q1s2

The Riverside Literature Series

THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY

BY

EDWARD EVERETT HALE

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY

RUSSELL A. SHARP, A.M.
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
HIGHLAND PARK HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR COLLEGE
HIGHLAND PARK, MICHIGAN

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY
BOSTON · NEW YORK · CHICAGO · DALLAS
SAN FRANCISCO
The Riverside Press Cambridge

SALEM COLLEGE LIBRARY
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

COPYRIGHT, 1923
BY HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

REPRINTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE
AUTHORIZED PUBLISHERS, LITTLE BROWN COMPANY

The Riverside Press
CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS
PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

INTRODUCTION

I. THE AUTHOR

BOSTON, during the middle years of the nineteenth century, was the center of literary culture in America to a degree which no city can ever again be in our increasingly complex civilization. In the literary life of the city a leading place was accorded naturally to Nathan Hale, owner and editor of *The Daily Advertiser*, for years the only daily newspaper published in New England. Nathan Hale, the journalist, bore a name familiar to American boys and girls, for he was the namesake of his uncle, the martyr spy of the Continental Army.

Edward Everett Hale, born in 1822, the second son of the publisher, was reared in an environment likely to develop any literary talent with which he was endowed. Into his father's home came journalists and authors. James Russell Lowell, Harvard classmate of Hale's elder brother, was a frequent visitor. Samuel Longfellow, cousin of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, was a college chum of Edward Everett Hale. The

28537

poet Longfellow himself was the professor of modern languages under whom Hale studied French and German. The uncle for whom the boy was named, Edward Everett, was a Massachusetts orator and statesman second only to the great Webster. And Webster, too, was an occasional guest in the home of Nathan Hale. As Lyman Abbott has said, Edward Everett Hale "was born, not with a silver spoon in his mouth, but with a pen in his hand, and acquired the kind of culture which can be acquired only during childhood and in a cultivated home."

When Hale was graduated from Harvard in 1839, at the age of seventeen, the youngest member of the class, he was given the office of class poet. Writing for publication was already an old practice with him, for his composition had appeared at intervals in *The Daily Advertiser* and elsewhere since, at the age of eleven, he had been requested by his father to make a brief translation from the French for the newspaper. His first book review had been written for *Graham's Magazine* while he was in his early teens. When he had submitted this review to his father for criticism, the elder Hale had struck out all the *very's*, and had

returned the manuscript with a warning to avoid needless superlatives.

Hale had already chosen the ministry as his profession, partly because of his strong religious feeling, but partly because, as he said, that career offered "an interesting life of literary occupation and social enjoyment." Because of his objection to the formalism and lack of freedom of thought in the divinity schools of the day, he chose to fit himself for his profession mainly by self-conducted reading courses which he pursued during the years following his graduation from college.

In 1841 he preached his first sermon, but it was not until 1844 that he accepted his first pastorate in the Unitarian Church at Worcester, Massachusetts. There he served for twelve years, refusing all other offers until he had completed his program. In 1856 he became pastor of the South Congregational Church in Boston, which he served actively until 1901, when he became pastor emeritus. He was appointed chaplain of the United States Senate in 1903, and continued in that office until his death in 1909. Although as a preacher and a theologian he was less profound than several other Unitarian ministers of his day, he was

a leader in the councils of the church, not merely because of the luster which his literary achievements gave to his name, but also because of his exceptional ability as an organizer.

The usual pastoral duties of a minister he almost neglected, but in a broader way he served the people as few pastors do. The abundant leisure of the clergy which was so alluring to him in his youth he spent, not in gratifying his personal desire, but in promoting all sorts of movements and ideas calculated to improve conditions of life about him. In such work he was indefatigable. George S. Merriam, writing of him in *The Outlook*, says, "He was a servant — servant of humanity and friend of the world. He was by turns or at once preacher, lecturer, editor, story-writer, historian, organizer, reformer, chaplain of the Senate, and twenty things besides."

He early became interested in the slavery question, being especially active in the Kansas-Nebraska controversy. In the effort to bring Kansas into the Union as a free State he assisted in the formation, in 1854, of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, an organization whose purpose was to establish colonies of New England emigrants

in Kansas, in order that the anti-slavery element might be in the majority when the vote of the Territory was taken to decide whether slavery should be permitted within the State. With the coming of the Civil War he was lifted out of parochial life into national activities; by the cataclysm he was made, in the truest sense, a public servant. From that time on, he engaged in an almost incredible number of civic movements. The names of the societies for social and civic betterment in which he was a leading spirit would fill a page of this book. Although he refused a commission as chaplain of a Massachusetts regiment, he took such an active part in the Civil War that his likeness appears on the Soldiers' Monument on Boston Common.

Among his later activities, the most far-reaching in their effect on the public welfare are his support of the Chautauqua movement, his participation in the Mohonk Conferences (at which the idea of international peace was first given publicity and where the foundations of the Hague Peace Conferences were laid), and his work in the formation of charitable organizations.

This last-named work, the greatest single achievement of Edward Everett Hale, was

in a sense a literary performance. In 1870, he published *Ten Times One is Ten*, a series of stories inspired by the life of a friend of Hale's, a noble character whose days had been spent in doing good for others. The author assumes that ten people, who have been benefited by such a person, agree that each of them will convert ten other people to the charitable philosophy of their benefactor, which is expressed in the motto, "Look up and not down, look forward and not back, look out and not in, and lend a hand." Each new convert is to bring in ten more new members of the society, and so on. Soon the whole world, save one philosopher, is pledged to "lend a hand." What happens in his case is told in the story.

Directly or indirectly, out of this book have grown most of the present-day organizations such as the Lend A Hand clubs, King's Daughters, and Epworth League.

Hale's writing was voluminous. Besides his frequent contributions to periodicals, he was author and editor of more than sixty books and editor of several magazines, chief among the latter being *The Christian Examiner* and *Old and New*, a literary-religious magazine which was merged with *Scribner's*

after six years. Many of his writings have fallen into neglect, but at least two of his stories are still popular; *My Double and How He Undid Me* and *The Man Without a Country.*

In all Hale's fiction, his philosophy of authorship is readily discerned. Always he wrote with a purpose other than to amuse; he thought that a story, like a Biblical parable, should make men better in thought and act. In his own words, "I considered literature in itself as worthless, and my literary work has always had an object." His story, *How Mr. Frye Would Have Preached It,* illustrates the thought that an actual story will convey an idea better than an abstract expression. The purpose and effect of *Ten Times One is Ten* have already been mentioned. *My Double* expresses the idea that, although the great demands of organized society must be obeyed, yet one has a duty to one's self which must be heeded in spite of community obligations. By way of contrast, or rather supplement, to this idea is the thought in *The Man Without a Country*, that one cannot fail to pay the debt to society without suffering in consequence.

His method of narration consisted often

in the selection of a preposterous assumption, from which he proceeded in a realistic and logical manner. He was an ardent lover of *Robinson Crusoe*, and the marvelous effects of reality of which Defoe was the master are produced in Hale's fiction. A reviewer in *The Atlantic Monthly*, commenting upon this quality in Hale, says, "His characters, in no matter what absurdity of attitude or situation they find themselves, always act in the most probable manner. . . . Philip Nolan, amidst all the sad impossibilities of his fate, was so veritable a man that many have claimed to know his history apart from Mr. Hale's narrative."

His favorite device in fiction was to have some one tell the story; hence, his style is colloquial.

His rules for writing, as formulated at the request of a beginner, are: (1) Know what you want to say; (2) Say it; (3) Use your own language; (4) Leave out all fine passages; (5) A short word is better than a long one; (6) The fewer words, other things being equal, the better; (7) Cut it to pieces. How well he followed his own precepts may be discovered by a brief examination of a random passage in *The Man Without a Country*.

II. THE STORY

The Man Without a Country well illustrates Hale's theory that the justification of a work of fiction is in the purpose which it serves. In 1863 the country was in the midst of Civil War which threatened the destruction of the Union. A group of States in the South had taken arms against the Government, and thousands of American citizens living in the border States between the North and the South had denied their obligation of loyalty. Everywhere people failed to appreciate the necessity of fealty to one's flag, and to understand the extent of the blessings bestowed upon them by their country. Men were becoming bolder in their expressions of disloyalty. In Ohio one Vallandigham, an ex-Congressman, made a violently incendiary speech against the Federal Government. For this act he was arrested, tried by court-martial, and sentenced to be imprisoned at Fort Warren. The sentence, however, President Lincoln wisely changed to deportation into the Confederate lines. After Vallandigham had been hustled into Confederate territory, some of his sympathizers in Ohio brought about his nomination for the

SALEM COLLEGE LIBRARY
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

governorship. This was the incident which was directly responsible for the publication of *The Man Without a Country*.

At that time Hale was engaged in writing a series of political articles for *The Atlantic Monthly*. It was his desire to strike a telling blow at the cause of the exile candidate, so he set to work at his story with a very definite end in view. He had previously developed the idea of the duty of the individual to society in a story, *The Children of the Public*, in *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, in January, 1863. Patriotic stories in verse and prose had been written by other authors almost from the beginning of literary composition; the author must give the subject a novel treatment if he hoped to attract attention sufficient to influence an impending political election.

To teach patriotism, most of us would attempt a story in which the hero makes a tremendous personal sacrifice for love of his country. But, after all, such a tale would show only that men have loved their country ardently; Hale wished to prove that a man ought to love his country, that his country is worthy of his love. Hence he chose as his central figure a man who had failed to realize how much his country meant to him.

In reading the opening paragraphs of the story, you discover that the central figure is a man who had been reared in that part of America which had been recently acquired from the French, where the population was at the time of the events largely French and Spanish. Thus there was better excuse for his disloyal utterance than for that of the politician Vallandigham. Further, you discover that young Nolan was subtly led into his faithlessness by the notorious Aaron Burr, and you feel more intensely the bitterness of treachery to one's government. The author's choice of initial situation is contrived with the skill of genius.

Hale has told us in an introduction to the story how he selected the name of his hero, and how it resulted in confusion. Desiring a name not unfamiliar in the history of the early days of Louisiana, he chose Nolan because he remembered that a Mr. Nolan had been associated with General Wilkinson in some disreputable excursions into Texas. Without referring to the source of his information, he thought that the Nolan of history was named Stephen, so he christened his hero Philip, thinking that the name of one Biblical evangelist would be a suitable companion for another. When he learned

later that the real Nolan was named Philip, he made amends for the injury he had done the name by writing a historical novel, *Philip Nolan's Friends*, in which the character of history is given a most favorable delineation.

The punishment meted out to the Philip Nolan of Hale's story is, like the punishment of Vallandigham, fitted to the crime. His wish that he should not hear of the United States again is granted, and the terrible mental suffering experienced by the prisoner in the long years that follow is apparently the result of his not hearing his country's name. At no time does the author permit us to think of the cruel discomforts of Nolan's life which must have arisen from his being kept constantly aboard ship, even if he had not been denied news of the United States.

In order to appreciate the ingenuity of the author in selecting the episodes which make up the story of Nolan's exile, the student may find it profitable to attempt to devise another incident to reveal the anguish of mind which poor Nolan endured. In the episodes in the story, no two reveal just the same phase of the prisoner's suffering, yet each brings home with startling vividness the lesson that to be without a country is to

be in constant torment. The encounter with the slave ship has a dramatic effectiveness seldom equaled in American literature.

No study of this story is complete without consideration of the author's mastery of verisimilitude (the presenting of a fiction so that it has the appearance of truth). Beginning with a preposterous situation in which an army officer is tried for a crime for which there is no real evidence as to his guilt and sentenced to a form of punishment which it would be impossible to maintain, the author proceeds to build up his story with such an appearance of reality as to convince vast numbers of his readers that the account is a bit of historical fact. Like Defoe, he secures this illusion of realness by recording carefully the minor details of incidents, by being obviously painstaking in verifying dates, names, and locations, and by avoiding all picturesque embellishments. The student should choose a number of passages from the story which add to its verisimilitude and try to explain why they do so. A comparison with Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* would also be profitable.

III. THE PATRIOTIC THEME IN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Patriotism as the subject-matter of a nation's literature is invariably an early development, usually being preceded by the subject of religion only. The patriot may express love of his own country or hatred of another; he may engage in political controversy and diatribe; he may propound a philosophy of government; he may pay tribute to the glorious events of the nation's history and to the heroes of those events.

In America, with the approach of the Revolutionary period, the patriotic superseded the religious theme in the writings of the colonists. Indeed, the literature of the Revolution was largely composed by the very men who made possible the birth of our nation. The Declaration of Independence itself is a literary as well as a political masterpiece. During the war, the oration and the essay were the chief forms used by the defenders of our liberty, but as time passed legends of romantic glamour clustered about the patriots so that the poets and story-writers of the nineteenth century found rich treasure for their imaginations. Orators also continued to find opportunity for glorifying

the Revolution in Independence Day addresses and in such commemorative occasions as the laying of the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument.

The War of 1812, though it failed to produce any great body of patriotic literature, furnished the inspiration for one of the best-known of American poems, *The Star-Spangled Banner.*

The slavery question, which had begun to absorb public attention before the Congressional debates on the Missouri Compromise of 1820, furnished abundant material for writers, especially in New England, until the culmination of the controversy in the Civil War. In oratory, the brilliant debate and invective of the statesmen Webster, Clay, Calhoun, and Hayne will be remembered, but more truly patriotic are the utterances of Abraham Lincoln. Chief among his speeches is that unequaled gem, *The Gettysburg Address.* It was with verse-makers, however, that America was especially blessed; Holmes, Whitman, Whittier, Bryant, and Lowell are numbered among the contributors to the war verse of 1861–1865. As was the case in the Revolution, fiction persisted and grew for years after the nation was restored to peace. Even

within the past decade the Lincoln fiction has been augmented by numerous books and stories.

The patriotic verse of the Confederacy was rich during the brief years of its existence, but for obvious reasons it is excluded from the appended bibliography. Among the Southern songs still familiar are *The Bivouac of the Dead*, *Maryland, My Maryland*, and *Dixie*.

The wars with Spain and the Philippines are almost barren of patriotic compositions of note; even the favorite marching song was only a popular melody of the day, *A Hot Time in the Old Town To-night*. Perhaps we should include in our bibliography Elbert Hubbard's *A Message to García*, an essay inspired by Rowan's memorable journey across Cuba with President McKinley's message, and William Vaughn Moody's *On a Soldier Fallen in the Philippines*, a poem which, while praising the patriot, protests against what the poet considers is a war of injustice and oppression.

The World War is too recent for us to judge accurately as to the value of its literature. While the numerous addresses of President Wilson have brought forth high praise, it is too soon to say which of his speeches

possess the enduring quality of universality. It seems almost that modern warfare is too terrible, too much a matter of cold, calculating business method in death-dealing, to awaken the imagination of the bard. Unfortunately, two of the younger poets of great promise who chose the conflict as their subject made the supreme sacrifice on the field of battle before their powers had fully matured — Alan Seeger and Joyce Kilmer.

The bibliography which follows is not an attempt at a complete catalogue of American patriotic literature; it is merely a list of representative titles which American boys and girls might be reasonably expected to read as a part of their preparation for the duties of citizenship.

IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AMERICAN PATRIOTIC LITERATURE

a. Literature of the Revolutionary Period

Patrick Henry: *Liberty or Death.*

James Otis: *The Writs of Assistance.*

Thomas Paine: *Common Sense; The Present Crisis.*

Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison: *The Federalist* papers.

Thomas Jefferson: *The Declaration of Independence.*
Francis Hopkinson: *The Battle of the Kegs.*
John Trumbull: *McFingal.*

b. Later Literature about the Revolution

Daniel Webster: *Bunker Hill Monument Address.*
Edward Everett Hale: *Honor to the Patriot Spy.*
Timothy Dwight: *Columbia.*
Philip Freneau: *To the Memory of the Brave Americans under General Greene.*
——: *Nathan Hale* (a poem).
Ralph Waldo Emerson: *Concord Hymn.*
H. W. Longfellow: *Paul Revere's Ride.*
J. G. Whittier: *Centennial Hymn.*
W. C. Bryant: *Song of Marion's Men.*
C. C. Coffin: *The Boys of '76.*
Dickinson: *Children's Book of Patriotic Stories, I.*

c. Literature of the War of 1812

Francis Scott Key: *The Star-Spangled Banner.*

d. Literature of the Civil War Period

Abraham Lincoln: *Gettsyburg Address; Second Inaugural Address.*

Julia Ward Howe: *Battle Hymn of the Republic.*

O. W. Holmes: *Union and Liberty; Voyage of the Good Ship Union.*

James R. Lowell: *Abraham Lincoln.*

Edmund C. Stedman: *The Hand of Lincoln.*

Walt Whitman: *O Captain, My Captain.*

Thomas Buchanan Read: *Sheridan's Ride.*

W. C. Bryant: *Our Country's Call.*

J. G. Whittier: *Barbara Frietchie.*

Edward Everett Hale: *The Man Without a Country.*

e. Later Literature about the Civil War

Henry Grady: *The New South.*

Albert Bushnell Hart: *The Little Drummer Boy.*

C. C. Coffin: *The Boys of '61; Freedom Triumphant.*

Dickinson: *Children's Book of Patriotic Stories, II.*

f. Literature of the Wars with Spain and with the Philippines

Elbert Hubbard: *A Message to García.*

William Vaughn Moody: *On a Soldier Fallen in the Philippines.*

g. Literature of the World War

Woodrow Wilson: *Second Inaugural Address; Flag Day Address, 1917.*
C. W. Eliot: *An American Creed.*
George M. Cohan: *Over There.*
Alan Seeger: *I Have a Rendezvous with Death.*

h. Miscellaneous Patriotic Literature

George Washington: *Farewell Address.*
Thomas Jefferson: *First Inaugural Address.*
Robert G. Ingersoll: *A Vision of War.*
General Horace Porter: *Reverence for the Flag.*
Elihu Root: *The Spirit of Self-Government.*
Woodrow Wilson: *Americanization and Loyalty.*
Theodore Roosevelt: *Americanism.*
Richard Watson Gilder: *The New Patriotism.*
Henry van Dyke: *Essays in Application; America for Me.*
Joseph Hopkinson: *Hail, Columbia.*
Samuel Francis Smith: *America.*
Thomas à Becket and David T. Shaw: *Columbia the Gem of the Ocean.*
H. W. Longfellow: *The Building of the Ship.*
Henry Holcomb Bennett: *The Flag Goes By.*
James Whitcomb Riley: *The Name of Old Glory.*

THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY

I SUPPOSE that very few casual readers of the "New York Herald" of August 13, 1863, observed, in an obscure corner, among the "Deaths," the announcement:

NOLAN. Died, on board U.S. Corvette *Levant*, Lat. 2° 11′ S., Long. 131° W., on the 11th of May, PHILIP NOLAN.

I happened to observe it, because I was stranded at the old Mission House in Mackinaw, waiting for a Lake Superior steamer which did not choose to come, and I was devouring to the very stubble all the current literature I could get hold of, even down to the deaths and marriages in the "Herald." My memory for names and people is good, and the

reader will see, as he goes on, that I had reason enough to remember Philip Nolan. There are hundreds of readers who would have paused at the announcement, if the officer of the *Levant* who reported it had chosen to make it thus: "Died, May 11, THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY." For it was as "The Man without a Country" that poor Philip Nolan had generally been known by the officers who had him in charge during some fifty years, as, indeed, by all the men who sailed under them. I dare say there is many a man who has taken wine with him once a fortnight, in a three years' cruise, who never knew that his name was "Nolan," or whether the poor wretch had any name at all.

There can now be no possible harm in telling this poor creature's story. Reason enough there has been

till now, ever since Madison's Administration went out in 1817, for very strict secrecy, the secrecy of honor itself, among the gentlemen of the Navy who have had Nolan in successive charge. And certainly it speaks well for the *esprit de corps* of the profession, and the personal honor of its members, that to the press this man's story has been wholly unknown — and, I think, to the country at large also. I have reason to think, from some investigations I made in the Naval Archives when I was attached to the Bureau of Construction, that every official report relating to him was burned when Ross burned the public buildings at Washington. One of the Tuckers, or possibly one of the Watsons, had Nolan in charge at the end of the war; and when, on returning from his cruise, he reported at

Washington to one of the Crowninshields — who was in the Navy Department when he came home — he found that the Department ignored the whole business. Whether they really knew nothing about it, or whether it was a "*Non mi ricordo*," determined on as a piece of policy, I do not know. But this I do know, that since 1817, and possibly before, no naval officer has mentioned Nolan in his report of a cruise.

But, as I say, there is no need for secrecy any longer. And now the poor creature is dead, it seems to me worth while to tell a little of his story, by way of showing young Americans of to-day what it is to be A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

PHILIP NOLAN was as fine a young officer as there was in the "Legion of the West," as the Western division of our army was then called. When

Aaron Burr made his first dashing expedition down to New Orleans in 1805, at Fort Massac, or somewhere above on the river, he met, as the Devil would have it, this gay, dashing, bright young fellow; at some dinner-party, I think. Burr marked him, talked to him, walked with him, took him a day or two's voyage in his flatboat, and, in short, fascinated him. For the next year, barrack-life was very tame to poor Nolan. He occasionally availed himself of the permission the great man had given him to write to him. Long, high-worded, stilted letters the poor boy wrote and rewrote and copied. But never a line did he have in reply from the gay deceiver. The other boys in the garrison sneered at him, because he lost the fun which they found in shooting or rowing while he was working away on these grand

letters to his grand friend. They could not understand why Nolan kept by himself while they were playing high-low-jack. Poker was not yet invented. But before long the young fellow had his revenge. For this time His Excellency, the Honorable Aaron Burr, appeared again under a very different aspect. There were rumors that he had an army behind him and everybody supposed that he had an empire before him. At that time the youngsters all envied him. Burr had not been talking twenty minutes with the commander before he asked him to send for Lieutenant Nolan. Then after a little talk he asked Nolan if he could show him something of the great river and the plans for the new post. He asked Nolan to take him out in his skiff to show him a canebrake or a cottonwood tree, as he said — really to se-

duce him; and by the time the sail was over, Nolan was enlisted body and soul. From that time, though he did not yet know it, he lived as A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

What Burr meant to do I know no more than you, dear reader. It is none of our business just now. Only, when the grand catastrophe came, and Jefferson and the House of Virginia of that day undertook to break on the wheel all the possible Clarences of the then House of York, by the great treason trial at Richmond, some of the lesser fry in that distant Mississippi Valley, which was farther from us than Puget's Sound is to-day, introduced the like novelty on their provincial stage; and, to while away the monotony of the summer at Fort Adams, got up, for *spectacles*, a string of court-martials on the officers there. One and another of the

colonels and majors were tried, and, to fill out the list, little Nolan, against whom, Heaven knows, there was evidence enough — that he was sick of the service, had been willing to be false to it, and would have obeyed any order to march any-whither with any one who would follow him had the order been signed, "By command of His Exc. A. Burr." The courts dragged on. The big flies escaped — rightly, for all I know. Nolan was proved guilty enough, as I say; yet you and I would never have heard of him, reader, but that, when the president of the court asked him at the close whether he wished to say anything to show that he had always been faithful to the United States, he cried out, in a fit of frenzy:

"Damn the United States! I wish I may never hear of the United States again!"

I suppose he did not know how the words shocked old Colonel Morgan, who was holding the court. Half the officers who sat in it had served through the Revolution, and their lives, not to say their necks, had been risked for the very idea which he so cavalierly cursed in his madness. He, on his part, had grown up in the West of those days, in the midst of "Spanish plot," "Orleans plot," and all the rest. He had been educated on a plantation where the finest company was a Spanish officer or a French merchant from Orleans. His education, such as it was, had been perfected in commercial expeditions to Vera Cruz, and I think he told me his father once hired an Englishman to be a private tutor for a winter on the plantation. He had spent half his youth with an older brother, hunting horses in Texas;

and, in a word, to him "United States" was scarcely a reality. Yet he had been fed by "United States" for all the years since he had been in the Army. He had sworn on his faith as a Christian to be true to "United States." It was "United States" which gave him the uniform he wore, and the sword by his side. Nay, my poor Nolan, it was only because "United States" had picked you out first as one of her own confidential men of honor that "A. Burr" cared for you a straw more than for the flat-boat men who sailed his ark for him. I do not excuse Nolan; I only explain to the reader why he damned his country, and wished he might never hear her name again.

He never did hear her name but once again. From that moment, September 23, 1807, till the day he died, May 11, 1863, he never heard

her name again. For that half-century and more he was a man without a country.

Old Morgan, as I said, was terribly shocked. If Nolan had compared George Washington to Benedict Arnold, or had cried, "God save King George," Morgan would not have felt worse. He called the court into his private room, and returned in fifteen minutes, with a face like a sheet, to say:

"Prisoner, hear the sentence of the Court! The Court decides, subject to the approval of the President, that you never hear the name of the United States again."

Nolan laughed. But nobody else laughed. Old Morgan was too solemn, and the whole room was hushed dead as night for a minute. Even Nolan lost his swagger in a moment. Then Morgan added:

SALEM COLLEGE LIBRARY
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

"Mr. Marshal, take the prisoner to Orleans in an armed boat, and deliver him to the naval commander there."

The marshal gave his orders and the prisoner was taken out of court.

"Mr. Marshal," continued old Morgan, "see that no one mentions the United States to the prisoner. Mr. Marshal, make my respects to Lieutenant Mitchell at Orleans, and request him to order that no one shall mention the United States to the prisoner while he is on board ship. You will receive your written orders from the officer on duty here this evening. The Court is adjourned without day."

I have always supposed that Colonel Morgan himself took the proceedings of the Court to Washington City, and explained them to Mr.

Jefferson. Certain it is that the President approved them — certain, that is, if I may believe the men who say they have seen his signature. Before the *Nautilus* got round from New Orleans to the Northern Atlantic coast with the prisoner on board, the sentence had been approved, and he was a man without a country.

The plan then adopted was substantially the same which was necessarily followed ever after. Perhaps it was suggested by the necessity of sending him by water from Fort Adams and Orleans. The Secretary of the Navy — it must have been the first Crowninshield, though he is a man I do not remember — was requested to put Nolan on board a Government vessel bound on a long cruise, and to direct that he should be only so far confined there as to

make it certain that he never saw or heard of the country. We had few long cruises then, and the Navy was very much out of favor; and as almost all of this story is traditional, as I have explained, I do not know certainly what his first cruise was. But the commander to whom he was entrusted — perhaps it was Tingey or Shaw, though I think it was one of the younger men — we are all old enough now — regulated the etiquette and the precautions of the affair, and according to his scheme they were carried out, I suppose, till Nolan died.

When I was second officer of the *Intrepid*, some thirty years after, I saw the original paper of instructions. I have been sorry ever since that I did not copy the whole of it. It ran, however, much in this way:

WASHINGTON (with a date, which must have been late in 1807).

SIR, — You will receive from Lieutenant Neale the person of Philip Nolan, late a lieutenant in the United States Army.

This person on his trial by court-martial expressed, with an oath, the wish that he might "never hear of the United States again."

The Court sentenced him to have his wish fulfilled.

For the present, the execution of the order is entrusted by the President to this Department.

You will take the prisoner on board your ship, and keep him there with such precautions as shall prevent his escape.

You will provide him with such quarters, rations, and clothing as would be proper for an officer of his late rank, if he were a passenger on your vessel on the business of his Government.

The gentlemen on board will make any arrangements agreeable to themselves regarding his society. He is to be exposed to no indignity of any kind, nor is he ever unnecessarily to be reminded that he is a prisoner.

But under no circumstances is he ever to hear of his country or to see any information regarding it; and you will especially caution all the officers under your command to take care, that, in the various indulgences which may be granted, this rule, in which his punishment is involved, shall not be broken.

It is the intention of the Government that he shall never again see the country which he has disowned. Before the end of your cruise you will receive orders which will give effect to this intention.

Respectfully yours,
W. SOUTHARD, for the
Secretary of the Navy.

If I had only preserved the whole of this paper, there would be no break in the beginning of my sketch of this story. For Captain Shaw, if it were he, handed it to his successor in the charge, and he to his, and I suppose the commander of the *Levant* has it to-day as his authority for keeping this man in this mild custody.

The rule adopted on board the

ships on which I have met "the man without a country" was, I think, transmitted from the beginning. No mess liked to have him permanently, because his presence cut off all talk of home or of the prospect of return, of politics or letters, of peace or of war — cut off more than half the talk men liked to have at sea. But it was always thought too hard that he should never meet the rest of us, except to touch hats, and we finally sank into one system. He was not permitted to talk with the men, unless an officer was by. With officers he had unrestrained intercourse, as far as they and he chose. But he grew shy, though he had favorites: I was one. Then the captain always asked him to dinner on Monday. Every mess in succession took up the invitation in its turn. According to the size of the ship, you

had him at your mess more or less often at dinner. His breakfast he ate in his own stateroom — he always had a stateroom — which was where a sentinel or somebody on the watch could see the door. And whatever else he ate or drank, he ate or drank alone. Sometimes, when the marines or sailors had any special jollification, they were permitted to invite "Plain-Buttons," as they called him. Then Nolan was sent with some officer, and the men were forbidden to speak of home while he was there. I believe the theory was that the sight of his punishment did them good. They called him "Plain-Buttons," because, while he always chose to wear a regulation Army Uniform, he was not permitted to wear the Army button, for the reason that it bore either the initials or the insignia of the country he had disowned.

I remember, soon after I joined the Navy, I was on shore with some of the older officers from our ship and from the *Brandywine*, which we had met at Alexandria. We had leave to make a party and go up to Cairo and the Pyramids. As we jogged along (you went on donkeys then), some of the gentlemen (we boys called them "Dons," but the phrase was long since changed) fell to talking about Nolan, and some one told the system which was adopted from the first about his books and other reading. As he was almost never permitted to go on shore, even though the vessel lay in port for months, his time at the best hung heavy; and everybody was permitted to lend him books, if they were not published in America and made no allusion to it. These were common enough in the old days, when people

in the other hemisphere talked of the United States as little as we do of Paraguay. He had almost all the foreign papers that came into the ship, sooner or later; only somebody must go over them first, and cut out any advertisement or stray paragraph that alluded to America. This was a little cruel sometimes, when the back of what was cut out might be as innocent as Hesiod. Right in the midst of one of Napoleon's battles, or one of Canning's speeches, poor Nolan would find a great hole, because on the back of the page of that paper there had been an advertisement of a packet for New York, or a scrap from the President's Message. I say this was the first time I ever heard of this plan, which afterwards I had enough and more than enough to do with. I remember it, because poor Phillips,

who was of the party, as soon as the allusion to reading was made, told a story of something which happened at the Cape of Good Hope on Nolan's first voyage; and it is the only thing I ever knew of that voyage. They had touched at the Cape, and had done the civil thing with the English Admiral and the fleet, and then, leaving for a long cruise up the Indian Ocean, Phillips had borrowed a lot of English books from an officer, which, in those days, as indeed in these, was quite a windfall. Among them, as the Devil would order, was *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*, which they had all of them heard of, but which most of them had never seen. I think it could not have been published long. Well, nobody thought there could be any risk of anything national in that, though Phillips swore old Shaw had cut out *The*

Tempest from Shakespeare before he let Nolan have it, because he said "the Bermudas ought to be ours, and, by Jove, should be one day." So Nolan was permitted to join the circle one afternoon when a lot of them sat on deck smoking and reading aloud. People do not do such things so often now; but when I was young we got rid of a great deal of time so. Well, so it happened that in his turn Nolan took the book and read to the others; and he read very well, as I know. Nobody in the circle knew a line of the poem, only it was all magic and Border chivalry, and was ten thousand years ago. Poor Nolan read steadily through the fifth canto, stopped a minute and drank something, and then began, without a thought of what was coming:

Breathes there the man, with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said, —

It seems impossible to us that anybody ever heard this for the first time; but all these fellows did then, and poor Nolan himself went on, still unconsciously or mechanically:

This is my own, my native land!

Then they all saw that something was to pay; but he expected to get through, I suppose, turned a little pale, but plunged on:

Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,
As home his footsteps he hath turned
From wandering on a foreign strand? —
If such there breathe, go, mark him well, —

By this time the men were all beside themselves, wishing there was any way to make him turn over two pages; but he had not quite presence of mind for that; he gagged a little, colored crimson, and staggered on:

For him no minstrel raptures swell;
High though his titles, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim,

> Despite these titles, power, and pelf,
> The wretch, concentred all in self, —

and here the poor fellow choked, could not go on, but started up, swung the book into the sea, vanished into his stateroom, "And by Jove," said Phillips, "we did not see him for two months again. And I had to make up some beggarly story to that English surgeon why I did not return his Walter Scott to him."

That story shows about the time when Nolan's braggadocio must have broken down. At first, they said, he took a very high tone, considered his imprisonment a mere farce, affected to enjoy the voyage, and all that; but Phillips said that after he came out of his stateroom he never was the same man again. He never read aloud again, unless it was the Bible or Shakespeare, or something else he was sure of. But it was not

that merely. He never entered in with the other young men exactly as a companion again. He was always shy afterwards, when I knew him — very seldom spoke, unless he was spoken to, except to a very few friends. He lighted up occasionally — I remember late in his life hearing him fairly eloquent on something which had been suggested to him by one of Fléchier's sermons — but generally he had the nervous, tired look of a heart-wounded man.

When Captain Shaw was coming home — if, as I say, it was Shaw — rather to the surprise of everybody they made one of the Windward Islands, and lay off and on for nearly a week. The boys said the officers were sick of salt-junk, and meant to have turtle-soup before they came home. But after several days the *Warren* came to the same rendezvous;

they exchanged signals; she sent to Phillips and these homeward-bound men letters and papers, and told them she was outward-bound, perhaps to the Mediterranean, and took poor Nolan and his traps on the boat back to try his second cruise. He looked very blank when he was told to get ready to join her. He had known enough of the signs of the sky to know that till that moment he was going "home." But this was a distinct evidence of something he had not thought of, perhaps — that there was no going home for him, even to a prison. And this was the first of some twenty such transfers, which brought him sooner or later into half our best vessels, but which kept him all his life at least some hundred miles from the country he had hoped he might never hear of again.

It may have been on that second cruise — it was once when he was up the Mediterranean — that Mrs. Graff, the celebrated Southern beauty of those days, danced with him. They had been lying a long time in the Bay of Naples, and the officers were very intimate in the English fleet, and there had been great festivities, and our men thought they must give a great ball on board the ship. How they ever did it on board the *Warren*, I am sure I do not know. Perhaps it was not the *Warren*, or perhaps ladies did not take up so much room as they do now. They wanted to use Nolan's stateroom for something, and they hated to do it without asking him to the ball; so the captain said they might ask him if they would be responsible that he did not talk with the wrong people, "who would give him intelligence." So

the dance went on, the finest party that had ever been known, I dare say; for I never heard of a man-of-war ball that was not. For ladies they had the family of the American consul, one or two travelers who had adventured so far, and a nice bevy of English girls and matrons, perhaps Lady Hamilton herself.

Well, different officers relieved each other in standing and talking with Nolan in a friendly way, so as to be sure that nobody else spoke to him. The dancing went on with spirit, and after a while even the fellows who took this honorary guard of Nolan ceased to fear any *contretemps*. Only when some English lady — Lady Hamilton, as I said, perhaps — called for a set of "American dances," an odd thing happened. Everybody then danced contra-dances. The black band, nothing loath, conferred

as to what "American dances" were, and started off with "Virginia Reel," which they followed with "Money-Musk," which, in its turn in those days, should have been followed by "The Old Thirteen." But just as Dick, the leader, tapped for his fiddles to begin, and bent forward, about to say, in true negro state, "'The Old Thirteen,' gentlemen and ladies!" as he had said "'Virginny Reel,' if you please!" and "'Money-Musk,' if you please!" the captain's boy tapped him on the shoulder, whispered to him, and he did not announce the name of the dance; he merely bowed, began on the air, and they all fell to — the officers teaching the English girls the figure, but not telling them why it had no name.

But that is not the story I started to tell. As the dancing went on,

Nolan and our fellows all got at ease, as I said — so much so, that it seemed quite natural for him to bow to that splendid Mrs. Graff, and say:

"I hope you have not forgotten me, Miss Rutledge. Shall I have the honor of dancing?"

He did it so quickly, that Fellows, who was with him, could not hinder him. She laughed and said:

"I am not Miss Rutledge any longer, Mr. Nolan; but I will dance all the same"; just nodded to Fellows, as if to say he must leave Mr. Nolan to her, and led him off to the place where the dance was forming.

Nolan thought he had got his chance. He had known her at Philadelphia, and at other places had met her, and this was a Godsend. You could not talk in contra-dances, as you do in cotillions, or even in the pauses of waltzing; but there were

chances for tongues and sounds, as well as for eyes and blushes. He began with her travels, and Europe, and Vesuvius, and the French; and then, when they had worked down, and had that long talking time at the bottom of the set, he said boldly — a little pale, she said, as she told me the story years after:

"And what do you hear from home, Mrs. Graff?"

And that splendid creature looked through him. Jove! how she must have looked through him!

"Home!! Mr. Nolan!!! I thought you were the man who never wanted to hear of home again!" — and she walked directly up the deck to her husband, and left poor Nolan alone, as he always was. — He did not dance again. I cannot give any history of him in order; nobody can now; and, indeed, I am not trying to.

These are the traditions, which I sort out, as I believe them, from the myths which have been told about this man for forty years. The lies that have been told about him are legion. The fellows used to say he was the "Iron Mask"; and poor George Pons went to his grave in the belief that this was the author of "Junius," who was being punished for his celebrated libel on Thomas Jefferson. Pons was not very strong in the historical line.

A happier story than either of these I have told is of the war. That came along soon after. I have heard this affair told in three or four ways — and, indeed, it may have happened more than once. But which ship it was on I cannot tell. However, in one, at least, of the great frigate-duels with the English, in which the Navy was really baptized, it hap-

pened that a round-shot from the enemy entered one of our ports square, and took right down the officer of the gun himself, and almost every man of the gun's crew. Now you may say what you choose about courage, but that is not a nice thing to see. But, as the men who were not killed picked themselves up, and as they and the surgeon's people were carrying off the bodies, there appeared Nolan, in his shirt-sleeves, with the rammer in his hand, and, just as if he had been the officer, told them off with authority — who should go to the cock-pit with the wounded men, who should stay with him — perfectly cheery, and with that way which makes men feel sure all is right and is going to be right. And he finished loading the gun with his own hands, aimed it, and bade the men fire. And there he stayed,

captain of that gun, keeping those fellows in spirits, till the enemy struck — sitting on the carriage while the gun was cooling, though he was exposed all the time — showing them easier ways to handle heavy shot — making the raw hands laugh at their own blunders — and when the gun cooled again, getting it loaded and fired twice as often as any other gun on the ship. The captain walked forward by way of encouraging the men, and Nolan touched his hat and said:

"I am showing them how we do this in the artillery, sir."

And this is the part of the story where all the legends agree; the commodore said:

"I see you do, and I thank you, sir; and I shall never forget this day, sir, and you never shall, sir."

And after the whole thing was

over, and he had the Englishman's sword, in the midst of the state and ceremony of the quarter-deck, he said:

"Where is Mr. Nolan? Ask Mr. Nolan to come here."

And when Nolan came, he said:

"Mr. Nolan, we are all very grateful to you to-day; you are one of us to-day; you will be named in the despatches."

And then the old man took off his own sword of ceremony, and gave it to Nolan, and made him put it on. The man told me this who saw it. Nolan cried like a baby, and well he might. He had not worn a sword since that infernal day at Fort Adams. But always afterwards on occasions of ceremony, he wore that quaint old French sword of the commodore's.

The captain did mention him in the despatches. It was always said

he asked that he might be pardoned. He wrote a special letter to the Secretary of War. But nothing ever came of it. As I said, that was about the time when they began to ignore the whole transaction at Washington, and when Nolan's imprisonment began to carry itself on because there was nobody to stop it without any new orders from home.

I have heard it said that he was with Porter when he took possession of the Nukahiwa Islands. Not this Porter, you know, but old Porter, his father, Essex Porter — that is, the old Essex Porter, not this Essex. As an artillery officer, who had seen service in the West, Nolan knew more about fortifications, embrasures, ravelins, stockades, and all that, than any of them did; and he worked with a right good-will in fixing that battery all right. I have always

thought it was a pity Porter did not leave him in command there with Gamble. That would have settled all the question about his punishment. We should have kept the islands, and at this moment we should have one station in the Pacific Ocean. Our French friends, too, when they wanted this little watering-place, would have found it was preoccupied. But Madison and the Virginians, of course, flung all that away.

All that was near fifty years ago. If Nolan was thirty then, he must have been near eighty when he died. He looked sixty when he was forty. But he never seemed to me to change a hair afterwards. As I imagine his life, from what I have seen and heard of it, he must have been in every sea, and yet almost never on land. He must have known, in a formal way, more officers in our

service than any man living knows. He told me once, with a grave smile, that no man in the world lived so methodical a life as he. "You know the boys say I am the Iron Mask, and you know how busy he was." He said it did not do for any one to try to read all the time, more than to do anything else all the time; and that he used to read just five hours a day. "Then," he said, "I keep up my notebooks, writing in them at such and such hours from what I have been reading; and I include in these my scrapbooks." These were very curious indeed. He had six or eight, of different subjects. There was one of History, one of Natural Science, one which he called "Odds and Ends." But they were not merely books of extracts from newspapers. They had bits of plants and ribbons, shells tied on, and carved scraps of bone

and wood, which he had taught the men to cut for him, and they were beautifully illustrated. He drew admirably. He had some of the funniest drawings there, and some of the most pathetic, that I have ever seen in my life. I wonder who will have Nolan's scrapbooks.

Well, he said his reading and his notes were his profession, and that they took five hours and two hours respectively of each day. "Then," said he, "every man should have a diversion as well as a profession. My Natural History is my diversion." That took two hours a day more. The men used to bring him birds and fish, but on a long cruise he had to satisfy himself with centipedes and cockroaches and such small game. He was the only naturalist I ever met who knew anything about the habits of the house-fly and the mosquito.

All those people can tell you whether they are *Lepidoptera* or *Steptopotera;* but as for telling how you can get rid of them, or how they get away from you when you strike them — why, Linnæus knew as little of that as John Foy the idiot did. These nine hours made Nolan's regular daily "occupation." The rest of the time he talked or walked. Till he grew very old, he went aloft a great deal. He always kept up his exercise; and I never heard that he was ill. If any other man was ill, he was the kindest nurse in the world; and he knew more than half the surgeons do. Then if anybody was sick or died, or if the captain wanted him to, on any other occasion, he was always ready to read prayers. I have said that he read beautifully.

My own acquaintance with Philip Nolan began six or eight years after

the English war, on my first voyage after I was appointed a midshipman. It was in the first days after our Slave-Trade Treaty, while the Reigning House, which was still the House of Virginia, had still a sort of sentimentalism about the suppression of the horrors of the Middle Passage, and something was sometimes done that way. We were in the South Atlantic on that business. From the time I joined, I believe I thought Nolan was a sort of lay chaplain — a chaplain with a blue coat. I never asked about him. Everything in the ship was strange to me. I knew it was green to ask questions, and I suppose I thought there was a "Plain-Buttons" on every ship. We had him to dine in our mess once a week, and the caution was given that on that day nothing was to be said about home. But if they had told us not

to say anything about the planet Mars or the Book of Deuteronomy, I should not have asked why; there were a great many things which seemed to me to have as little reason. I first came to understand anything about "the man without a country" one day when we overhauled a dirty little schooner which had slaves on board. An officer was sent to take charge of her, and after a few minutes, he sent back his boat to ask that some one might be sent him who could speak Portuguese. We were all looking over the rail when the message came, and we all wished we could interpret, when the captain asked who spoke Portuguese. But none of the officers did; and just as the captain was sending forward to ask if any of the people could, Nolan stepped out and said he should be glad to interpret, if the captain

wished, as he understood the language. The captain thanked him, fitted out another boat with him, and in this boat it was my luck to go.

When we got there, it was such a scene as you seldom see, and never want to. Nastiness beyond account, and chaos run loose in the midst of the nastiness. There were not a great many of the negroes; but by way of making what there were understand that they were free, Vaughan had had their handcuffs and ankle-cuffs knocked off, and, for convenience' sake, was putting them upon the rascals of the schooner's crew. The negroes were, most of them, out of the hold, and swarming all round the dirty deck, with a central throng surrounding Vaughan and addressing him in every dialect, and *patois* of a dialect, from the Zulu

click up to the Parisian of Beledeljereed.

As we came on deck, Vaughan looked down from a hogshead, on which he had mounted in desperation, and said:

"For God's love, is there anybody who can make these wretches understand something? The men gave them rum, and that did not quiet them. I knocked that big fellow down twice, and that did not soothe him. And then I talked Choctaw to all of them together; and I'll be hanged if they understood that as well as they understood the English."

Nolan said he could speak Portuguese, and one or two fine-looking Kroomen were dragged out, who, as it had been found already, had worked for the Portuguese on the coast at Fernando Po.

"Tell them they are free," said Vaughan; "and tell them that these rascals are to be hanged as soon as we can get rope enough."

Nolan "put that into Spanish" — that is, he explained it in such Portuguese as the Kroomen could understand, and they in turn to such of the negroes as could understand them. Then there was such a yell of delight, clinching of fists, leaping and dancing, kissing of Nolan's feet, and a general rush made to the hogshead by way of spontaneous worship of Vaughan, as the *deus ex machina* of the occasion.

"Tell them," said Vaughan, well pleased, "that I will take them all to Cape Palmas."

This did not answer so well. Cape Palmas was practically as far from the homes of most of them as New Orleans or Rio Janéiro was; that is, they would be eternally separated

from home there. And their interpreters, as we could understand, instantly said, "*Ah, non Palmas,*" and began to propose infinite other expedients in most voluble language. Vaughan was rather disappointed at this result of his liberality, and asked Nolan eagerly what they said. The drops stood on poor Nolan's white forehead, as he hushed the men down, and said:

"He says, 'Not Palmas.' He says, 'Take us home, take us to our own country, take us to our own house, take us to our own pickaninnies and our own women.' He says he has an old father and mother who will die if they do not see him. And this one says he left his people all sick, and paddled down to Fernando to beg the white doctor to come and help them, and that these devils caught him in the bay just in sight of home,

and that he has never seen anybody from home since then. And this one says," choked out Nolan, "that he has not heard a word from his home in six months, while he has been locked up in an infernal barracoon."

Vaughan always said he grew gray himself while Nolan struggled through this interpretation. I, who did not understand anything of the passion involved in it, saw that the very elements were melting with fervent heat, and that something was to pay somewhere. Even the negroes themselves stopped howling, as they saw Nolan's agony, and Vaughan's almost equal agony of sympathy. As quick as he could get words, he said:

"Tell them yes, yes, yes; tell them they shall go to the Mountains of the Moon, if they will. If I sail the schooner through the Great White Desert, they shall go home!"

And after some fashion Nolan said so. And then they all fell to kissing him again, and wanted to rub his nose with theirs.

But he could not stand it long; and getting Vaughan to say he might go back, he beckoned me down into our boat. As we lay back in the stern-sheets and the men gave way, he said to me: "Youngster, let that show you what it is to be without a family, without a home, and without a country. And if you are ever tempted to say a word or to do a thing that shall put a bar between you and your family, your home, and your country, pray God in His mercy to take you that instant home to His own heaven. Stick by your family, boy; forget you have a self, while you do everything for them. Think of your home, boy; write and send, and talk about it. Let it be nearer and nearer

to your thought, the farther you have to travel from it; and rush back to it when you are free, as that poor black slave is doing now. And for your country, boy" and the words rattled in his throat, "and for that flag," and he pointed to the ship, "never dream a dream but of serving her as she bids you, though the service carry you through a thousand hells. No matter what happens to you, no matter who flatters you or who abuses you, never look at another flag, never let a night pass but you pray God to bless that flag. Remember, boy, that behind all these men you have to do with, behind officers, and government, and people even, there is the Country Herself, your Country, and that you belong to Her as you belong to your own mother. Stand by Her, boy, as you would stand by your mother,

if those devils there had got hold of her to-day!"

I was frightened to death by his calm, hard passion; but I blundered out that I would, by all that was holy, and that I had never thought of doing anything else. He hardly seemed to hear me; but he did, almost in a whisper, say: "Oh, if anybody had said so to me when I was of your age!"

I think it was this half-confidence of his, which I never abused, for I never told this story till now, which afterward made us great friends. He was very kind to me. Often he sat up, or even got up, at night, to walk the deck with me, when it was my watch. He explained to me a great deal of my mathematics, and I owe to him my taste for mathematics. He lent me books, and helped me about my reading. He never alluded so di-

rectly to his story again; but from one and another officer I have learned, in thirty years, what I am telling. When we parted from him in St. Thomas harbor, at the end of our cruise, I was more sorry than I can tell. I was very glad to meet him again in 1830; and later in life, when I thought I had some influence in Washington, I moved heaven and earth to have him discharged. But it was like getting a ghost out of prison. They pretended there was no such man, and never was such a man. They will say so at the Department now! Perhaps they do not know. It will not be the first thing in the service of which the Department appears to know nothing!

There is a story that Nolan met Burr once on one of our vessels, when a party of Americans came on board in the Mediterranean. But

this I believe to be a lie; or, rather, it is a myth, *ben trovato*, involving a tremendous blowing-up with which he sunk Burr — asking him how he liked to be "without a country." But it is clear from Burr's life, that nothing of the sort could have happened; and I mention this only as an illustration of the stories which get a-going where there is the least mystery at bottom.

Philip Nolan, poor fellow, repented of his folly, and then, like a man, submitted to the fate he had asked for. He never intentionally added to the difficulty or delicacy of the charge of those who had him in hold. Accidents would happen; but never from his fault. Lieutenant Truxton told me that, when Texas was annexed, there was a careful discussion among the officers, whether

they should get hold of Nolan's handsome set of maps and cut Texas out of it — from the map of the world and the map of Mexico. The United States had been cut out when the atlas was bought for him. But it was voted, rightly enough, that to do this would be virtually to reveal to him what had happened, or, as Harry Cole said, to make him think Old Burr had succeeded. So it was from no fault of Nolan's that a great botch happened at my own table, when, for a short time, I was in command of the *George Washington* corvette, on the South American station. We were lying in the La Plata, and some of the officers, who had been on shore and had just joined again, were entertaining us with accounts of their misadventures in riding the half-wild horses of Buenos Ayres. Nolan was at table, and was

in an unusually bright and talkative mood. Some story of a tumble reminded him of an adventure of his own when he was catching wild horses in Texas with his adventurous cousin, at a time when he must have been quite a boy. He told the story with a good deal of spirit — so much so, that the silence which often follows a good story hung over the table for an instant, to be broken by Nolan himself. For he asked, perfectly unconsciously:

"Pray, what has become of Texas? After the Mexicans got their independence, I thought that province of Texas would come forward very fast. It is really one of the finest regions on earth; it is the Italy of this continent. But I have not seen or heard a word of Texas for near twenty years."

There were two Texan officers at

the table. The reason he had never heard of Texas was that Texas and her affairs had been painfully cut out of his newspapers since Austin began his settlements; so that, while he read of Honduras and Tamaulipas, and, till quite lately, of California — this virgin province, in which his brother had traveled so far, and, I believe, had died, had ceased to be to him. Waters and Williams, the two Texas men, looked grimly at each other and tried not to laugh. Edward Morris had his attention attracted by the third link in the chain of the captain's chandelier. Watrous was seized with a convulsion of sneezing. Nolan himself saw that something was to pay, he did not know what. And I, as master of the feast, had to say:

"Texas is out of the map, Mr. Nolan. Have you seen Captain

Back's curious account of Sir Thomas Roe's Welcome?"

After that cruise I never saw Nolan again. I wrote to him at least twice a year, for in that voyage we became even confidentially intimate; but he never wrote to me. The other men tell me that in those fifteen years he *aged* very fast, as well he might indeed, but that he was still the same gentle, uncomplaining, silent sufferer that he ever was, bearing as best he could his self-appointed punishment — rather less social, perhaps, with new men whom he did not know, but more anxious, apparently, than ever to serve and befriend and teach the boys, some of whom fairly seemed to worship him. And now it seems the dear old fellow is dead. He has found a home at last, and a country.

Since writing this, and while con-

sidering whether or no I would print it, as a warning to the young Nolans and Vallandighams and Tatnalls of to-day of what it is to throw away a country, I have received from Danforth, who is on board the *Levant*, a letter which gives an account of Nolan's last hours. It removes all my doubts about telling this story.

The reader will understand Danforth's letter, or the beginning of it, if he will remember that after ten years of Nolan's exile every one who had him in charge was in a very delicate position. The Government had failed to renew the order of 1807 regarding him. What was a man to do? Should he let him go? What, then, if he were called to account by the Department for violating the order of 1807? Should he keep him? What, then, if Nolan should be liberated some day, and should bring

an action for false imprisonment or kidnapping against every man who had had him in charge? I urged and pressed this upon Southard, and I have reason to think that other officers did the same thing. But the Secretary always said, as they so often do at Washington, that there were no special orders to give, and that we must act on our own judgment. That means, "If you succeed, you will be sustained; if you fail, you will be disavowed." Well, as Danforth says, all that is over now, though I do not know but I expose myself to a criminal prosecution on the evidence of the very revelation I am making.

Here is the letter:

LEVANT, 2° 2′ S. @ 131° W.

DEAR FRED: — I try to find heart and life to tell you that it is all over with dear old Nolan. I have been with him on this voyage

more than I ever was, and I can understand wholly now the way in which you used to speak of the dear old fellow. I could see that he was not strong, but I had no idea the end was so near. The doctor has been watching him very carefully, and yesterday morning came to me and told me that Nolan was not so well, and had not left his stateroom — a thing I never remember before. He had let the doctor come and see him as he lay there — the first time the doctor had been in the stateroom — and he said he should like to see me. Oh, dear! do you remember the mysteries we boys used to invent about his room in the old *Intrepid* days? Well, I went in, and there, to be sure, the poor fellow lay in his berth, smiling pleasantly as he gave me his hand, but looking very frail. I could not help a glance round, which showed me what a little shrine he had made of the box he was lying in. The stars and stripes were triced up above and around a picture of Washington and he had painted a majestic eagle, with lightnings blazing from his beak and his foot just clasping the whole globe, which his wings overshadowed. The dear old boy saw my glance, and said, with a sad smile, "Here, you see, I have a country!" And then he

pointed to the foot of his bed, where I had not seen before a great map of the United States, as he had drawn it from memory, and which he had there to look upon as he lay. Quaint, queer old names were on it, in large letters: "Indiana Territory," "Mississippi Territory," and "Louisiana Territory," as I suppose our fathers learned such things: but the old fellow had patched in Texas, too; he had carried his western boundary all the way to the Pacific, but on that shore he had defined nothing.

"O Captain," he said, "I know I am dying. I cannot get home. Surely you will tell me something now? — Stop! stop! Do not speak till I say what I am sure you know, that there is not in this ship, that there is not in America — God bless her! — a more loyal man than I. There cannot be a man who loves the old flag as I do, or prays for it as I do, or hopes for it as I do. There are thirty-four stars in it now, Danforth. I thank God for that, though I do not know what their names are. There has never been one taken away: I thank God for that. I know by that that there has never been any successful Burr. O Danforth, Danforth," he sighed out, "how like a wretched night's dream a boy's idea

of personal fame or of separate sovereignty seems, when one looks back on it after such a life as mine! But tell me — tell me something — tell me everything, Danforth, before I die!"

Ingham, I swear to you that I felt like a monster that I had not told him everything before. Danger or no danger, delicacy or no delicacy, who was I, that I should have been acting the tyrant all this time over this dear, sainted old man, who had years ago expiated, in his whole manhood's life, the madness of a boy's treason? "Mr. Nolan," said I, "I will tell you everything you ask about. Only, where shall I begin?"

Oh, the blessed smile that crept over his white face! and he pressed my hand and said, "God bless you! Tell me their names," he said, and he pointed to the stars on the flag. "The last I know is Ohio. My father lived in Kentucky. But I have guessed Michigan and Indiana and Mississippi — that was where Fort Adams is — they make twenty. But where are your other fourteen? You have not cut up any of the old ones, I hope?"

Well, that was not a bad text, and I told him the names in as good order as I could, and he bade me take down his beautiful map

and draw them in as I best could with my pencil. He was wild with delight about Texas, told me how his cousin died there; he had marked a gold cross near where he supposed his grave was; and he had guessed at Texas. Then he was delighted as he saw California and Oregon; — that, he said, he had suspected partly, because he had never been permitted to land on that shore, though the ships were there so much. "And the men," said he, laughing, "brought off a good deal besides furs." Then he went back — heavens, how far! — to ask about the *Chesapeake*, and what was done to Barron for surrendering her to the *Leopard*, and whether Burr ever tried again — and he ground his teeth with the only passion he showed. But in a moment that was over, and he said, "God forgive me, for I am sure I forgive him." Then he asked about the old war — told me the true story of his serving the gun the day we took the *Java* — asked about dear old David Porter, as he called him. Then he settled down more quietly, and very happily, to hear me tell in an hour the history of fifty years.

How I wished it had been somebody who knew something! But I did as well as I

could. I told him of the English war. I told him about Fulton and the steamboat beginning. I told him about old Scott, and Jackson; told him all I could think of about the Mississippi, and New Orleans, and Texas, and his own old Kentucky. And do you think, he asked who was in command of the "Legion of the West." I told him it was a very gallant officer named Grant, and that, by our last news, he was about to establish his headquarters at Vicksburg. Then, "Where was Vicksburg?" I worked that out on the map; it was about a hundred miles, more or less above his old Fort Adams; and I thought Fort Adams must be a ruin now. "It must be at old Vick's plantation, at Walnut Hills," said he: "well, that is a change!"

I tell you, Ingham, it was a hard thing to condense the history of half a century into that talk with a sick man. And I do not now know what I told him — of emigration, and the means of it — of steamboats, and railroads, and telegraphs — of inventions, and books, and literature — of the colleges, and West Point, and the Naval School — but with the queerest interruptions that ever you heard. You see it was Robinson Crusoe

asking all the accumulated questions of fifty-six years!

I remember he asked, all of a sudden, who was President now; and when I told him, he asked if Old Abe was General Benjamin Lincoln's son. He said he met old General Lincoln, when he was quite a boy himself, at some Indian treaty. I said no, that Old Abe was a Kentuckian like himself, but I could not tell him of what family; he had worked up from the ranks. "Good for him!" cried Nolan; "I am glad of that. As I have brooded and wondered, I have thought our danger was in keeping up those regular successions in the first families." Then I got talking about my visit to Washington. I told him of meeting the Oregon Congressman, Harding; I told him about the Smithsonian, and the Exploring Expedition; I told him about the Capitol, and the statues for the pediment, and Crawford's Liberty, and Greenough's Washington: Ingham, I told him everything I could think of that would show the grandeur of his country and its prosperity; but I could not make up my mouth to tell him a word about this infernal rebellion!

And he drank it in and enjoyed it as I

cannot tell you. He grew more and more silent, yet I never thought he was tired or faint. I gave him a glass of water, but he just wet his lips, and told me not to go away. Then he asked me to bring the Presbyterian "Book of Public Prayer" which lay there, and said, with a smile, that it would open at the right place — and so it did. There was his double red mark down the page; and I knelt down and read, and he repeated with me, "For ourselves and our country, O gracious God, we thank Thee, that, notwithstanding our manifold transgressions of Thy holy laws, Thou hast continued to us Thy marvelous kindness" — and so to the end of that thanksgiving. Then he turned to the end of the same book, and I read the words more familiar to me: "Most heartily we beseech Thee with Thy favor to behold and bless Thy servant, the President of the United States, and all others in authority" — and the rest of the Episcopal collect. "Danforth," said he, "I have repeated those prayers night and morning, it is now fifty-five years." And then he said he would go to sleep. He bent me down over him and kissed me; and he said, "Look in my Bible, Captain, when I am gone." And I went away.

But I had no thought it was the end. I thought he was tired and would sleep. I knew he was happy, and I wanted him to be alone.

But in an hour, when the doctor went in gently, he found Nolan had breathed his life away with a smile. He had something pressed close to his lips. It was his father's badge of the Order of the Cincinnati.

We looked in his Bible, and there was a slip of paper at the place where he had marked the text:

> They desire a country, even a heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.

On this slip of paper he had written:

> Bury me in the sea; it has been my home, and I love it. But will not some one set up a stone for my memory at Fort Adams or at Orleans, that my disgrace may not be more than I ought to bear? Say on it:
>
> *In Memory of*
>
> PHILIP NOLAN,
>
> *Lieutenant in the Army of the United States.*
>
> He loved his country as no other man has loved her; but no man deserved less at her hands.

QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

PAGE

1. Point out the touches in the first paragraph which give an air of reality to the story.
2, *line 21*. What harm might have come of telling Nolan's story during his life?
4, *line 5*. Why should the authorities at Washington ignore the imprisonment of Nolan? Do you suppose such a policy is ever practiced by our Government? Would it ever be justifiable? Why did the naval officers continue to keep Nolan on board ship?
4, *lines 17–19*. Why did Hale wish especially to teach this lesson to young Americans at that time (1863)? Why is it important to know this lesson now? How should realization of its truth affect your life?
5, *line 1*. Read an account of Aaron Burr in an encyclopædia or history. Do you think Burr has been fairly treated by American historians?
7, *line 3*. Why was Nolan now a man without a country?
8. With what crime was Nolan charged before the court-martial? What is the usual punishment for that offense?
9. What excuse is there for Nolan's lack of patriotism?
9, *line 11*. Relate the story of the acquisition of Louisiana by the United States.

10, *line 20*. What was the one occasion on which Nolan heard the name of the United States again?

48, *line 10*.
49, *line 22*. } What distinction is implied as to one's duty to one's family, one's home, and one's country?

57, *lines 17–18*. What is the purpose of the author's question?

61 ff. Did Danforth do right in telling Nolan of his country? Are there any conditions under which you might be justified in disregarding the law or proclamation of your Government? Is your feeling that a law is unjust sufficient grounds for disobeying it?

64, *lines 13–15*. Why did Nolan think that keeping up regular successions in the first families was dangerous?

Which events of the story are historical facts?

By what methods did Nolan inform himself as to the progress of the United States and the admission of new states?

Point out three or four passages which are effective in giving verisimilitude to the story.

Enumerate the chief events of Nolan's imprisonment which emphasize the lesson of the story. Try to prove that one of these is most effective.

Point out humorous passages in the story.

Write an original account of another incident which might have occurred during Nolan's imprisonment.

Dramatize the court-martial scene; the reading of *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*.

Why should you revere your country? In what ways does your country help you? How may you best show your appreciation of your country?

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY

Enumerate some patriotic acts which have been performed in your community. Have you observed or heard of any unpatriotic acts in your community? If so, tell the class about them.

NOTES

PAGE

1, *line 7*. The *Levant* had actually been destroyed years before. The location given in the death notice would place the *Levant* on a peak in the Andes. Why did the author choose to place the ship there?

3, *line 18*. General Ross, with several thousand British troops, captured the city of Washington, August 24, 1814, and burned the White House, the Capitol, and other buildings. A few days later Ross was slain when the British were defeated at Baltimore. It was during this attack on Baltimore that *The Star-Spangled Banner* was written.

4, *line 7*. *Non mi ricordo;* Italian, I do not remember.

5, *line 1*. After his fatal duel with Hamilton, Burr started for the West in 1805, probably intent upon the conquest of Mexico and the establishment there of a separate government with himself as chief. President Jefferson was informed in part of Burr's schemes by General Wilkinson. Burr was arrested, but was later acquitted.

6, *line 18*. Note the confusion of pronouns. Try to recast the sentence.

7, *line 12*. Breaking on the wheel was a form of torture in mediæval Europe.

7, *line 13*. House of York, at one time the royal family in England. The Wars of the Roses were waged between the Houses of York and Lancaster.

7, *line 17*. Puget Sound, a Pacific inlet in the State of Washington.

9, *line 11 ff.* Louisiana had been Spanish territory until 1800, when it was ceded to France, from whom it was purchased under Jefferson's Administration in 1803. New Orleans was the scene of many political intrigues, and the frequent changes of ownership prevented the development of a strong feeling of allegiance.

10, *line 20.* Is this sentence grammatically correct?

12, *line 19.* Without day: usually expressed in the Latin, *sine die.* The phrase means that no definite time for reconvening the court is set.

14, *line 2.* We: Hale wrote the story under the *nom de plume* of Lieutenant Frederic Ingham, of the Navy. He intended that its real authorship should be unknown, hoping thus to pass it as an authentic recital of facts. Owing to a blunder, Hale was announced as the author in *The Atlantic Monthly.*

20, *line 11.* Hesiod, an early Greek poet.

20, *line 13.* Canning, an English statesman, 1770–1827.

22, *line 1.* The scene of *The Tempest* is laid in the Bermudas.

25, *line 11.* Fléchier (1632–1710), a French priest, Bishop of Nîmes.

27, *lines 11–13.* Those were the days of hoop skirts.

28, *line 9.* Lady Hamilton (1761–1815), a woman of humble origin whose beauty brought her many admirers. She was the mother of the illegitimate son of Nelson, the great British admiral.

32, *line 10.* Junius, the pseudonym used by the author of seventy letters published in the London *Public Advertiser,* 1769–1772, famous for their brilliant political satire. The identity of the author is still doubtful. Of course Junius had never written anything against Thomas Jefferson.

32, *line 15.* The war: the War of 1812.

34, *line 2*. The enemy struck: lowered her colors, surrendered.

35, *line 11*. Despatches: official reports of the battle to the Government.

38, *line 5*. Iron Mask: a mysterious French political prisoner (d. 1703) who always wore a mask when being transferred from one prison to another. One story reputed him to be an illegitimate brother of Louis XIV, but his identity has never been established.

40, *line 2*. Lepidoptera: a scientific name for a certain order of insects; there is no such order as Steptopotera.

40, *line 6*. Linnæus (1707–1778), a famous Swedish botanist.

42, *lines 1–5*. A sly dig at the "red tape" of naval regulations.

44, *line 1*. Beledeljereed: a region of North Africa between Algeria and the Great Desert; literally, the land of palms.

44, *lines 7–17*. Point out the humor of this paragraph.

44, *line 23*. Fernando Po: an island off the coast of West Africa belonging to Spain.

45, *line 15*. *Deus ex machina:* literally, god out of the machine: the superhuman power that directs the destiny of man.

47, *line 6*. Barracoon: an enclosure or barrack for temporary confinement of slaves (Webster).

53, *line 11*. An allusion to Burr's attempt to set up an empire in Texas.

54, *lines 4–5*. "Catching wild horses in Texas with his adventurous *cousin*." Cf. p. 9, lines 21–23, "He had spent half his youth with an older *brother*, hunting horses in Texas." The author explained that this contradiction is intentional, being the sort of inaccuracy which might naturally occur in an account of events more or less vaguely remembered by the *raconteur*.

57, *line 3*. Vallandigham: see Introduction, II, paragraph 1.

Tatnall: Josiah Tattnall (1795–1871), an American naval officer who originated the phrase, "Blood is thicker than water," when he gave his assistance unasked to the British naval forces attacking the Chinese near Peking. Tattnall later resigned his commission and became an officer in the Confederate Navy.

58, *line 20*. Compare latitude with the death notice, p. 1, line 8.

62, *line 3*. The Philip Nolan of history was killed by Spanish soldiers at an unknown spot in Texas. An account of his death will be found in Hale's novel, *Philip Nolan's Friends*.

64, *lines 13–15*. In the early years of our nation there was a prevalent fear that a hereditary aristocracy might be established.

64, *line 18*. Smithsonian: a scientific institution at Washington, established to promote research work and the advancement of knowledge.

36, *line 8*. Order of the Cincinnati: a patriotic society to which the oldest living male descendants of officers of the Continental Army are eligible.

PS
1772
.M3
1923

28537

PS
1772
.M3/1923

28537

AUTHOR
Hale

TITLE
the Man Without a Country

DATE DUE	BORROWER'S NAME

Gramley Library
Salem College
Winston-Salem, NC 27108

SALEM ACADEMY & COLLEGE
0 2960 0045142 1

WITHDRAWN

Gramley Library
Salem College
Winston-Salem, NC 27108

W9-ADP-903